

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:	
PURPA STANDARDS IN THE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007	DOCKET NO. NOI-2008-0003

**ORDER REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

(Issued October 18, 2013)

On December 5, 2008, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order initiating a notice of inquiry in response to the requirements of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Among the many provisions of this federal legislation are four new federal electric ratemaking standards added to the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978. Smart grid issues predominated and since the inquiry was opened, two workshops have been held and written comments solicited on various smart grid issues.

On June 25, 2012, the Board issued a smart grid report that, among other things, contained an overview of current activity and technological advances on various smart grid projects Iowa utilities were undertaking. The order noted that the Board might solicit additional information in the future.

The Board believes an update of utilities' activities and other participants' comments on current smart grid issues will be helpful so that all participants and the Board have a common knowledge base to determine whether additional smart grid

initiatives would provide value to utility customers. In the last report, a common theme throughout the comments was the importance of focusing on the balance between customer value and cost.

Participants may file comments on or before November 15, 2013, with current smart grid information; any reply comments may be filed on or before December 13, 2013. The information request is open-ended and participants are encouraged to address smart grid issues that have arisen since the last report. However, there are some topics that the Board requests investor-owned utilities and the cooperative and municipal associations to address. These are:

1. An update from Interstate Power and Light Company on its Web-based interface with industrial customers, including any customer feedback, and an update on its meter installation in Dubuque;
2. Updates from MidAmerican Energy Company on its Synchrophaser project and Opower project, including any customer feedback;
3. An update from the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives on meter replacement (Advance Metering Infrastructure, commonly referred to as AMI) programs undertaken by various member cooperatives, including the progress made in AMI and Outage Management Systems working in tandem; and
4. An update from the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities on grant-funded projects undertaken by some of its member utilities.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Participants are invited to submit comments that include updates on smart grid issues and new issues that have arisen since the last report. Initial comments may be filed on or before November 15, 2013, and reply comments on or before December 13, 2013. Investor-owned utilities and the cooperative and municipal associations are asked to address the topics that are applicable to their respective utilities that are identified in the body of this order.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

/s/ Nick Wagner

ATTEST:

/s/ Joan Conrad  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Sheila K. Tipton

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013.